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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/602,880	06/25/2003	Kang Soo Seo	1740-000018/US	2259
30593	7590	04/05/2007	EXAMINER	
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. P.O. BOX 8910 RESTON, VA 20195			JONES, HEATHER RAE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2621	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	04/05/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/602,880	SEO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Heather R. Jones	2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 25 June 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/19/2005</u> .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).
2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: Fig. 5, reference characters "1" and "2".

Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kato et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0145702).

Regarding claim 1, Kato et al. discloses a recording medium having a data structure for managing reproduction of multiple playback path video data of a title, comprising: a playlist directory area storing a playlist directory including a plurality of playlist files, each playlist file identifying a portion of the multiple playback path video data and at least a portion of the playlist files associated with different playback paths (Fig. 14; paragraph [0212]); and at least one navigation information area storing navigation information at least providing information on one playback path (Figs. 20 and 21; paragraph [0182]).

Regarding claim 2, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that a group of playlist files is associated with each playback path (Figs. 70 and 72).

Regarding claim 3, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 1 and 2 including that the navigation information at least provides information linking one playlist file to another playlist file in the same playback path (Figs. 29, 31, and 90).

Regarding claim 4, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 1-3 including that the different playback paths of the title are different stories of the title (Fig. 72 – different PID numbers indicate the different stories).

Regarding claim 5, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 1 and 2 including that the navigation information indicates a next playlist file to playback after a particular playlist file is played back (Figs. 29 and 31).

Regarding claim 6, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that the navigation information at least provides information linking one playlist file to another playlist file in the same playback path (Figs. 29, 31, and 90).

Regarding claim 7, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 1 and 6 including that the different playback paths of the title are different stories of the title (Fig. 72 – different PID numbers indicate the different stories).

Regarding claim 8, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 including that the navigation information indicates a next playlist file to playback after a particular playlist file is played back (Figs. 29 and 31).

Regarding claim 9, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 1 as well as further comprising a data area storing clips of the multiple playback path video data, and the video data for each playback path being stored in a different clip (Fig. 92).

Regarding claim 10, Kato et al. discloses a recording medium having a data structure for managing reproduction of multiple playback path video data,

comprising: a playlist directory area storing a playlist directory including a plurality of playlists, at least a number of the playlists divided into groups and each group associated with a different playback path (Fig. 14, paragraph [0212]).

Regarding claim 11, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 10 as well as the recording medium comprising at least one navigation information area storing navigation information at least providing information on one playback path (Figs. 20 and 21; paragraph [0182]).

Regarding claim 12, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 10 and 11 including that the navigation information at least provides information linking one playlist file to another playlist file in the same playback path (Figs. 29, 31, and 90).

Regarding claim 13, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 10-12 including that the different playback paths of the title are different stories of the title (Fig. 72 – different PID numbers indicate the different stories).

Regarding claim 14, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claims 10 and 11 including that the navigation information indicates a next playlist file to playback after a particular playlist file is played back (Figs. 29 and 31).

Regarding claim 15, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 10 as well as further comprising a data area

storing clips of the multiple playback path video data, and the video data for each playback path being stored in a different clip (Fig. 92).

Regarding claim 16, Kato et al. discloses a method of reproducing multiple playback path video data from a recording medium, comprising: receiving user input selecting one of the playback paths; reproducing at least one playlist associated with the selected playback path based on navigation information recorded on the recording medium (Figs. 14, 20, and 21; paragraphs [0182] and [0212]).

Regarding claim 17, Kato et al. discloses all limitations as previously discussed with respect to claim 16 including that the reproducing step reproduces a group of playlists based on the navigation information (Figs. 29, 31, and 90).

Regarding claim 18, Kato et al. discloses a method of recording a data structure for managing reproduction of at least video data on a recording medium, comprising: recording a playlist directory including a plurality of playlist files in a playlist directory area of the recording medium, each playlist file identifying a portion of the multiple playback path video data and at least a portion of the playlist files associated with different playback paths (Fig. 14; paragraph [0212]); and recording navigation information in at least one navigation information area of the recording medium, the navigation information at least providing information on one playback path (Figs. 20 and 21; paragraph [0182]).

Regarding claim 19, Kato et al. discloses a method of reproducing a data structure for managing reproduction of at least video data, comprising: reproducing navigation information from at least one navigation information area of the recording medium, the navigation information at least providing information on one playback path (Figs. 14, 20, and 21; paragraphs [0182] and [0212]); and reproducing at least one playlist file in a playlist directory area of the recording medium based on the navigation information, each playlist file identifying a portion of the multiple playback path video data and at least a portion of the playlist files associated with different playback paths (Figs. 29, 31, and 90).

Regarding claim 20, Kato et al. discloses an apparatus for recording a data structure for managing reproduction of at least video data, comprising: a driver for driving an optical recording device to record data on a recording medium; an encoder (15) for encoding at least video data; and a controller (23) for controlling the driver to record the encoded video data on the recording medium, the controller for controlling the driver to record a playlist directory including a plurality of playlist files in a playlist directory area of the recording medium, each playlist file identifying a portion of the multiple playback path video data and at least a portion of the playlist files associated with different playback paths; and the controller (23) controlling the driver to record navigation information in at least one navigation information area of the recording medium, the navigation information at least providing information on one playback path (Fig. 1; paragraph [0150]).

Regarding claim 21, Kato et al. discloses an apparatus for reproducing a data structure for managing reproduction of at least video data, comprising: a driver for driving an optical reproducing device to reproduce data recorded on a recording medium; a controller (23 and 28) for controlling the driver to reproduce navigation information from at least one navigation information area of the recording medium, the navigation information at least providing information on one playback path; and the controller (23 and 28) controlling the driver to reproduce at least one playlist file in a playlist directory area of the recording medium based on the navigation information, each playlist file identifying a portion of the multiple playback path video data and at least a portion of the playlist files associated with different playback paths (Fig. 1; paragraphs [0152] and [0153]).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Heather R. Jones whose telephone number is 571-272-7368. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thurs.: 7:00 am - 4:30 pm, and every other Fri.: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Heather R Jones
Examiner
Art Unit 2621

HRJ
April 2, 2007

Grody
James J. Grody
Supervisory Patent Examiner
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